

paragraph of page 8 to the bottom of the second full paragraph of page 10:

In order to package a stack 24 on a pallet 23 as shown for example in FIGS. 6 and 7 at first an open stretch-foil hood 20 is drawn over the pivot arms 11 in their inner position, so that the stretch-foil hood 25 is gathered. This action is aided by the driven rollers 22. In the embodiment shown in FIGS. 6 and 7 the pivot arms 11 extend vertically downward although the stretch-foil hood could be pulled down over the pivot arms 11 when they are reversed by 180°. Once the stretch-foil hood is gathered and fully engaged over the pivot arms 11, the pivot arms 11 are shifted into their outer positions by axial movement of the rods 3 so that the stretch-foil hood 25 is circumferentially stretched. This is shown in FIG. 6 by arrow 26. The stretched condition of the hood 25 is also shown in FIG. 4, but there with pivot arms 11 that extend vertically upward.

As the stretch-foil hood 25 is fitted over the pivot arms 11 it is also fitted over the inner brake elements 13. This is shown in FIG. 2 After stretching the stretch-foil hood has an inner cross section that is bigger than the footprint of the stack 24 so that the tensioning frame can be dropped over the stack 24. Beforehand the outer brake elements 14 are pressed against the inner brake elements 13 so that the stretch-foil hood 25 is clamped between the brake elements 13 and 14.

As the tensioning frame drops the upper end 28 of the stretch-foil hood 25 engages the top 27 of the stack 24. The stretch-foil hood is no during further dropping of the frame 1 pulled off the pivot arms 11, whereby as a result of

appropriately biasing of the outer brake elements, by pressurizing the hoses 17 with a pressure medium, the braking force applied to the stretch-foil hood 25 is set so as to create the desired vertical tension of the stretch-foil hood 25.

In order to make it easier to pull the stretch-foil hood 25 off the arms 11, they, as shown in FIG. 5, can be tipped toward the stack 25 out of their vertical position into an angled position. In this region a braking force can be applied by the rollers 22.

Thus nothing in Develop suggests that the arms 11 are tipped during their downward displacement. The Develop text is silent as to when this happens, and there is even reason to believe that the Develop arms are tipped before the downward displacement starts. Regardless, there is no suggestion in Develop of displacing the arms inward during downward displacement.

Thus the rejection on the combination of Higgins and Develop under §103 is incorrect. There is nothing in Develop to suggest the critical inventive feature of claim 30, namely moving the arms inward during downward displacement of these arms. This action is not suggested although admittedly it is also not excluded. Still the statute requires that a reference suggest the feature, not merely that it describe something that makes the feature possible.

Atty's 23089

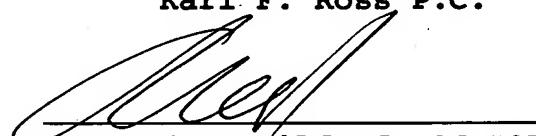


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For this reason all the claims in the case are clearly in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

If only minor problems that could be corrected by means of a telephone conference stand in the way of allowance of this case, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned to make the necessary corrections.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosure: None.